[14th March 1928

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"I see from page 157, in list 3 that in 30 villages the outturn of crops was about 4 annas and that in 20 villages it was 5 annas. Considering the fact that these villages had no good crops in the previous years, will the Government consider the question of remitting or suspending the collection of land revenue for fasli 1337 at least ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"We will put the hon. Member's suggestion to the Collector, and ask for his report."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—"Considering that collection of land revenue is going on now, will the Government consider the advisability of expediting the matter ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"Certainly, Sir; this is a matter that must receive immediate attention."

Mr P. SIVA RAO :—"Will the Government consider the question of the suspension of the collection of takkavi loans also in connexion with this matter ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—"If the hon. Member can give me a statement of the grounds on which I may take action, I shall be very glad to consider it."

Failure of crops in Bellary and Rayadrug taluks.

* 1744 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of rainfall in the month of February 1928 in Bellary and Rayadrug taluks of Bellary district;

(b) the increase in the insect-pests of cholam crop and the extent to which the cotton flowers and buds have dropped on account of these rains;

(c) the reduction in the crop outturn on account of these rains;

(d) the number of villages which were estimated in January to yield an outturn of 4–7 annas have yielded less than 4 annas after the rains; and

(e) what action is being taken to suspend land revenue this year in these villages ?

A.—(a) During the three weeks ending 19th February 1928, the rainfall in the Bellary taluk was 1·09 inches and in the Rayadrug taluk 1·32 inches.

(b) & (c) The Government cannot undertake to make these estimates.

(d) Cotton forecasts are prepared at the end of January and again at the end of March and the estimate for cholam is made only at harvest. There are no monthly reports or accounts of the kind suggested in the question.

(e) No orders have been issued suspending the revenue due for the current fasli in the two taluks. The collection of the entire suspended revenue of fasli 1336 in 55 villages of the Bellary taluk and in five villages of the Rayadrug taluk has been postponed from the current to the next fasli and the collection of half the suspended revenue of fasli 1336 has been similarly postponed in 63 villages of the Bellary taluk and in 31 villages of the Rayadrug taluk.